

BOOK REVIEWS

Skin Grafting. By Leonard Freeman. Quarto, cloth. Pages 129. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Publishers. Price \$1.50.

There is not much good to be said of this book. It contains nothing new; as a compilation it is incomplete, sometimes inaccurate and contains statements of opinion not at all in accord with modern teaching. Numerous references to the earlier literature will make it welcome to those interested in the historical development of the subject. The opportunity for an exposition of the many problems connected with skin grafting—absorbing ones and full of actual interest—has been let pass. L. E.

Microbes and Toxins. By Dr. Etienne Burnet. Translated from the French by C. Broquet and W. M. Scott. Science Series, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1912. Price \$2.00.

Burnet's aim in this book of some 300 pages is to bring the bacteriological science from the laboratory and set it before the reading public. Only those who have experienced the difficulty of putting medical science into popular form will appreciate Burnet's work. He reveals a universe of micro-organisms, some beneficent, others mischievous, upon which the science of bacteriology is founded. For the layman the first half of the book will solve many questions, as to just what germs are, their form, their mode of life and ways of invading man. For the student and practitioner no more interesting or more fascinating reading can be found than Burnet's chapters on immunity, anaphylaxis, vaccines and sera and the conquests and still unlimited possibilities of chemotherapy. E. D. D.

A Treatise on Pellagra for the General Practitioner. By Edward Jenner Wood, S. B., M. D. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York and London. 1912.

The general practitioner who resorts to this book for his knowledge of pellagra will find it difficult to wade through the mass of summaries, quotations, and translations which form the opening chapters on history and etiology. The book consists essentially of reading notes, unnecessarily complete and presented in many places without a clear indication of the purpose of their introduction. The chapters devoted to description of the disease are enlivened by helpful pictures and by illustrative material from the author's own experience with four hundred cases. On the basis of history and of his American experience, the author considers the maize theory of the causation of pellagra to be untenable. In describing the skin lesions he places great emphasis on their accurate symmetry and he considers this point of great diagnostic importance. While the book has many faults in style and construction, it will nevertheless justify its existence by making available the author's extensive observations on pellagra as it occurs in America. W. A. S.

Arteriosclerosis. By Louis M. Warfield, A. B., M. D. Second edition. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, 1912. Price \$2.50.

The author, addressing himself to the general practitioner, has endeavored to give a "readable authoritative essay on a disease which is especially an outcome of modern civilization." The

parts of the book most likely to accomplish this purpose are the chapters on symptoms, prognosis, and treatment of arteriosclerosis, and on its relation to life insurance, where the author speaks with the force and interest of personal experience. Many of the other chapters do not give the reader this favorable impression. They frankly consist largely of summaries or extracts from the opinions of others, which have been put together without the amount of criticism one would expect in a truly authoritative monograph. In common with too much of the literature which the practitioner is asked to read, words are not economized, and the reader who conscientiously goes over these 200 pages will feel that a small percentage of this space would have sufficed to give him all the important facts. In addition to lack of discrimination and conciseness, this defect is referable to errors of arrangement. For example, one finds discussion of auscultatory phenomena below the blood pressure cuff in three separate places. Again, blood pressure instruments are discussed on page 61 et seq. and a second time beginning on page 124. Historical comments are made in both places; in the first Marey is given credit for devising the first useful blood pressure instrument in 1876, in the second reference is made to V. Basch as having made the first one in 1887. Many other examples of defective editing might be pointed out. The remarks on the physics of blood pressure instruments are nothing short of naive. E. S. K.

Surgery and Diseases of the Mouth and Jaws.

By Vilray Papin Blair. Quarto, cloth. Pages 638. C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Publishers. Price \$5.00.

The author has combined both the dental and the surgical aspects of the diseases of the mouth and jaws in an unusually good and thorough presentation. Many good illustrations of dental deformity and disease incident to disease of the mouth and jaws, and an explicit and clear text will make the dental part of this treatise especially valuable to the general surgeon, being an aspect of the subject hitherto little considered in surgical text-books. The chapters on fractures of the mandible and on cleft palate and hare-lip are excellent; they present points of view that should be of use in preventing dental errors often made by the general surgeon in treating these conditions. To the dentist the book may be recommended as everywhere embodying sound surgical principles, and as the fruit of a wide surgical experience. Photographs of specimens from London museums, taken especially for this book, descriptions of methods witnessed at foreign hospitals, plates of casts and anatomical dissections evidence the labor and care bestowed on the work, which however is not a mere compilation, but gives plentiful expression to the author's personal opinion—the result of wide experience and of sane and critical judgment. The first few chapters are for the benefit of the dental student and are devoted to general surgery, the remaining ones treat the diseases of the mouth and jaws proper. A book of this kind is rare; as a text-book it is ideal, as a work of reference it may be warmly recommended to both the general and the dental surgeon. L. E.

Text Book on the Pathogenic Bacteria and Protozoa. Seventh edition, thoroughly revised. A text book upon the Pathogenic Bacteria and Protozoa. For Students of Medicine and Physicians. By Joseph McFarland, M. D., Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology in the

Medico-Chirurgical College, Philadelphia. Seventh edition, thoroughly revised. Octavo of 878 pages, 293 illustrations, a number of them in colors. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1912. Cloth, \$3.50 net.

One must consider this book from the standpoint of the student, the practitioner, and the specialist. The text is absolutely inadequate in many places for the student, i. e., p. 182, in his description of Gram's method of staining, the essential details of this most important test are omitted. For the specialist the book is out of the question, being too inaccurate, indefinite, and inadequate. On the other hand it would be a fair book for the busy practitioner for reference and to give him a brief résumé of the literature to date. With a like number of other recent publications, the author has attempted to devote too much space to the more recent methods and conditions, in many ways neglecting more important "old" subjects. The bacteriological side of sanitation is neglected to a sad degree, this important branch of the subject being merely touched upon. A few of his experiments showing lack of detail are as follows: autoclave, p. 232; antiseptics, p. 302; Wassermann reaction, p. 334; stools in typhoid, p. 650.

The illustrations are to be commended, most of them being simple, clear, and easily understood.
S. R. D.

New Aspects of Diabetes, Pathology and Treatment. By Prof. Dr. Carl von Noorden. Published by E. B. Treat & Co., New York. 1912. Price \$1.50.

This is the latest of the well-known red covered books with which this firm of publishers has kept the American medical public in touch with the work of von Noorden. This monograph covers a series of lectures delivered during October, 1912, before the New York Post-Graduate Medical School. Physicians and students in San Francisco had the opportunity of hearing two of these lectures (San Francisco County Medical Society, Oct. 15, 1912; Stanford University, Oct. 21, 1912), and they will surely welcome the opportunity of having these in permanent form. There are many points presented by von Noorden which differ from our older accepted views, the most radical being the one expressed as to the harmlessness of the ketonuria so often seen on changing to a strict diet, this being a source of great worry to the average physician who only too frequently sees in this an indication for the administration of carbohydrates. The relations of the various glands with internal secretions to the pancreas are interestingly shown, though it must be confessed that but little practical value so far as therapy is concerned, has resulted from this study.

The translation of these lectures leaves a great deal to be desired, especially the first chapters. Their perusal is thus deprived of a great deal of the pleasure which they would otherwise afford. It would seem as if the haste with which they were translated and published had something to do with this. To German readers we would recommend the sixth edition of von Noorden's "Die Zuckerkrankheit und ihre Behandlung," published by Aug. Hirschwald in Berlin, February, 1912, as being just as modern and far more comprehensive in scope.
R. B.

The Practice of Dentistry. A practical treatise upon the general practice of Dentistry, Operative and Prosthetic, exclusive of Orthodontic Practice. By Leo Greenbaum, M. D., D. D. S.,

formerly Dean and Professor of Clinical Dentistry, Materia Medica and Anaesthesia, Philadelphia Dental College, and Max Greenbaum, formerly Quiz Master, Philadelphia Dental College. 350 illustrations. D. Appleton & Co., 1912.

The work is an effort to embrace nearly everything relating to modern dental practice in one book with the exception noted in the title. Chapters 1 and 2 on dentition present subject-matter not usually found in works on operative dentistry, and though the author may differ with medical opinion in therapeutic measures, basing his judgment on clinical experience, under present dental educational conditions it has some value. A review of the history of the cause of dental caries is followed by a statement of the generally accepted theories of to-day. Nothing new is presented in operative procedure under nomenclature, cavity preparation, or the use of filling materials, Dr. G. V. Black's recent work being quoted very largely. Many of the illustrations were published in dental text-books thirty years ago. Burchard's Dental Pathology and Buckley's Materia Medica and Therapeutics are quoted frequently in the chapters dealing with those subjects. In the treatment for the removal of the dental pulp, no mention whatever is made of novocain, so generally used in pressure, peridental, and intraosseous anesthesia. The chapter on Oral Hygiene for children might be of some interest to the medical practitioner. Section II on Prosthodontia is a more modern presentation, and deals very generally with all phases of this field of dental science, especially crown and bridge work. Quite all of the illustrations and descriptive matter on anatomical articulation appeared in Dental Digest in 1910 and later was donated to the profession in book form as a premium with a subscription to that journal. It is difficult to conceive of one's library being concentrated in a single volume.

GUY S. MILLBERRY.

TWO YEARS' INTERNESHIP—GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL, GUANAJUATO, MEXICO.

This is a missionary hospital which was started by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Another Christian doctor is needed for the staff.

Guanajuato is a city of 60,000, the capital of the state of the same name. It is located 160 miles northwest of Mexico City. It stands at an altitude of 6,500 feet in a rich silver-mining region. The Mexican Central Railroad passes through the city.

One year's report of the hospital staff shows 339 visits to homes, 4,579 consultations, 24,523 treatments, 52 major and 279 minor surgical operations, medicines furnished 17,587 patients. Fifteen different nationalities were included among those who were treated.

For the internship a man is required who has had a thorough medical education and who is prepared to make his professional knowledge and skill directly subservient to the furtherance of the gospel.

Communications may be addressed to the director of the hospital, Dr. Levi B. Salmans, Good Samaritan Hospital, Guanajuato, Mexico.

The undersigned will be glad to communicate with any medical men who are interested in the need for physicians in foreign countries.

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